.(c) and (d) There is no such proposal before the Government at present.

Statement

Public order being a State subject it is for the State Governments concerned to devise various method to take concrete steps to improve law and order situation, provide adequate security to the citizens as well as wherever necessary extend financial and other assistance to the victims. Accordingly, some State Governments have schemes for payment or ex-gratia relief to the victims of tragedies like-bomb blasts, fire, riots and other accidents. At the Central level compensation is paid in the event of rali, and Air accidents as tinder:

Rail accidents: Under the Railways Act, 1989 there is provision for payment of a sum of Rs. % lakhs in case of death or total disability and a minimum of Rs. 16,000/- to a maximum of Rs. 1,80,000/- for various kinds of injuries.

Air accidents:

(1) In the event of death of a passenger or any bodily injury or bound suffered by a passenger which results in a permanent disablement in-capacitating him from engaging in, or being occupied with his usual duties, or business or occupation, the liability of the carrier for each passenger shall be Rs. 5 lakhs if the passenger is 12 or more years of age, and Rs. 2.5 lakhs if the passenger is below 12 years of age on the date of accident.

(2) In the event of wounding of a passenger or any bodily injury suffered by the passenger which results in a temporary disablement preventing an injured passenger from attending to his usual duties or business or occupation, the liability of the carrier for each passenger shall be limited to a sum calculated at the rate of Rs. 500/_ per day, the period during which he coa-tinues to be so disabled or a sum of Rs. 1 lakh whichever is less.

Taking out children abroad

4120. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIIS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of children are being taken out abroad on adoption every year from orphanage houses from Maha-rashtra and other States;

(b) if so, what are the details regarding the magnitude of the problem Statewise at all India level;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard, if so, details thereof; and

(d) details of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AF-FAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Release of criminals for want of evidence

4121. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend or redraft present criminal procedure code in view of the changed atmosphere of the country where a large number of criminals are being released for want of evidence;

(b) whether in most of the cases the evidence is not being recorded because the witnesses are being threatened by criminals with dire consequences and as such having committed a crime, most of the criminals are getting released; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AF-FAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI *M.* M. JACOB): (a) A Conference of Chief Ministers wag held on